

(c) wherein said leaf adhesive disposed on said second surface of said last leaf is adapted to mount said stack to a surface to be covered, and is of sufficient strength to prevent lifting of said stack during removal of individual leaves.

Please cancel claims 3 and 4 without prejudice or disclaimer.

7. The surface covering of claim 1 wherein said leaves are comprised of flexible material.

9. (Amended) The surface covering of claim 1 further comprising a protecting sheet [leaf adhesive protector] disposed on said second surface of said last leaf.

10. The surface covering of claim 1 further comprising peeling means for facilitating peeling of said leaves from an adjacent said leaf.

11. The surface covering of claim 10 wherein said peeling means comprises at least one non-adhesive section disposed on said second surface of said leaves covering no more than 30% of the entire surface area of said second surface of said leaves, said at least one non-adhesive section being able to be accessed by a user to peel said leaves from said stack.

12. The surface covering of claim 10 wherein said peeling means comprises a tab with a first and second surface integral to each of said leaves adapted to be accessed by a user to peel said leaves from said stack.

13. The surface covering of claim 12 wherein said second surface of said tab comprises an adhesive.

14. The surface covering of claim 12 wherein said first surface of said tab comprises an adhesive.

15. The surface covering of claim 12 wherein said first and second surfaces of said tab comprise an adhesive.

Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice or ~~disclaimer~~.

17. The surface covering of claim 1 wherein said covering is precut to correspond to dimensions of a specific surface to be covered.

18. (Amended) A multi-layer surface covering comprising:

(a) a plurality of leaves arranged to form a stack of said leaves having at least a first leaf and a last leaf, such that said first leaf forms an outer covering surface, each of said leaves, excluding the last leaf comprising:

(i) a first surface adapted to serve as said covering surface, wherein said

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first surface is without adhesive; and

(ii) a second surface that opposes said first surface comprising a leaf adhesive, said second surface of each of said leaves adhering by said leaf adhesive to said first surface of an adjacent said leaf whereby said first leaf may be removed from the adjacent said leaf such that the adjacent said leaf becomes said first leaf; and

(b) wherein said last leaf comprises a first surface adapted to serve as said covering surface and an opposing second surface; and

(c) a mounting adhesive layer disposed on the second surface of said last leaf and having greater adhesive strength than the adhesive strength of said leaf adhesive.

Claims 19 – 37 have been withdrawn from consideration as non-elected method claims.

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38. (Amended) A surface covering comprising:

(a) leaves arranged to form a stack of said leaves having at least a first leaf and a last leaf, such that said first leaf forms an outer covering surface, each of said leaves, excluding the last leaf, comprising:

(i) a first surface adapted to serve as said covering surface, wherein said first surface is without adhesive; and

(ii) a second surface that opposes said first surface and comprises leaf adhesive, said second surface adhering by said leaf adhesive to said first surface of an adjacent said leaf whereby said first leaf may be removed from the adjacent said leaf such that said adjacent said leaf becomes said first leaf; and

(b) wherein said last leaf comprises a first surface adapted to serve as said covering surface and an opposing second surface; and

(c) wherein said second surface of said last leaf comprises no leaf adhesive.

39. The surface covering of claim 38 comprising at least one intermediate leaf disposed between said first leaf and said last leaf.